

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0004] as follows:

[0022] Where storage virtualization is implemented with a storage area network (SAN), interconnect there is a one to one correspondence between each host target identifier (e.g., logical device name, virtual LUN, or the like) used by an application host and unique interconnect device identifier (e.g., a Fibre Channel world wide port name and/or world wide node name) used within the storage network interconnect. Consequently, failover between multiple interconnect elements or devices (e.g., switches) or paths may result in the alteration of the unique interconnect device identifier (ID) associated with a given host target identifier when an interconnect element or device ~~become~~ **becomes** unavailable due to failure or disconnection.

Please amend paragraph [0016] as follows:

[0016] A “virtualization device” ~~with~~ **within** the present description includes any device configured to provide storage virtualization to one or more application hosts. Using the virtualization devices (active virtualization switch 112 and standby virtualization switch 114) of SAN interconnect 110 and the functionality of metadata host 104, a layer **of** abstraction is provided between application host 102 and data storage device 106 such that storage elements 108 may be used to present one or more virtual storage elements (e.g., virtual Logical Unit Numbers or “VLUNS”) to application host 102. The virtual storage elements may be accessed by application host 102 using a single consistent interface (e.g., host target identifier).

Please amend paragraph [0022] as follows:

[0022] Database entry 210 of the illustrated embodiment includes data specifying a unique interconnect device identifier such as a Fibre Channel world wide port name and/or world wide node name, and a switch Internet Protocol (IP) address of a virtualization switch (e.g., active virtualization switch 112), thereby associating the virtualization switch and described unique interconnect device identifier. In one embodiment of the present invention database entry 210 further includes additional

metadata used to determine a mapping between a host target identifier and a unique interconnect device identifier. In another embodiment, database entry 210 further includes ~~additionally~~ additional metadata uniquely identifying a virtualization switch device.

Please amend paragraph [0023] as follows:

[0023] In the illustrated embodiment, failover manager 140 within memory 132 includes a monitor module 202 subcomponent and a failover module 204 subcomponent. Monitor module 202 receives a heartbeat signal from each virtualization switch (e.g., virtualization switches 112 and 114) of a SAN and indicates, in response to the absence of an expected heartbeat signal, a failure condition for a corresponding virtualization switch to failover module 204. Failover module 204, upon receiving an indication that a virtualization switch has failed, associates the failed virtualization switch's unique interconnect device identifier with a standby virtualization switch, provides the standby virtualization switch with the failed virtualization switch's volume map, and exports all virtual storage elements associated with the standby virtualization switch to the SAN.